

[Click here to sign up for our newsletter](#)

LGBTQ TA CENTER Newsletter



Fall 2021

[View as Webpage](#)

November 20 is Transgender Day of Remembrance.

In 2021, we have lost at least 46 Transgender and gender non-conforming lives to violence ([Human Rights Campaign](#)). These stories often go unreported, or the victims are misgendered in media reports. As in previous years, those who were killed were disproportionately Black and Latinx Transgender women.

California recently became the first state in the nation to collect information about gender identity and sexual orientation in violent death cases, beginning with six pilot counties ([read more at The Guardian](#)). We are hopeful that this program will grow and will shed light on the disproportionate violence inflicted on our Transgender and gender non-conforming community members, friends, and loved ones.

Human Rights Campaign tracks violent death data each year, and shares details and

quotes about those whom we have lost ([read about them here](#)).

*In solidarity and remembrance, we are reprinting the names of those who were killed in 2021. **We list them individually to honor them as individuals, and not as statistics.***

Tyianna Alexander

Samuel Edmund Damián Valentín

Bianca "Muffin" Bankz

Dominique Jackson

Fifty Bandz

Alexus Braxton

Chyna Carrillo

Jeffrey "JJ" Bright and Jasmine Cannady, siblings

Jenna Franks

Diamond Kyree Sanders

Rayanna Pardo, Los Angeles, California

Jaida Peterson

Dominique Lucious

Remy Fennell

Tiara Banks

Natalia Smut, Milpitas, California

Iris Santos

Tiffany Thomas

Keri Washington

Jahaira DeAlto

Whispering Wind Bear Spirit

Sophie Vásquez

Danika "Danny" Henson

Serenity Hollis

Oliver "Ollie" Taylor

Thomas Hardin

Poe Black, Niland, California

EJ Boykin

Aidelen Evans

Taya Ashton

Shai Vanderpump

Tierramarie Lewis

Miss CoCo

Pooh Johnson

Disaya Monae

Briana Hamilton

Kiér Laprí Kartier

Mel Groves

Royal Poetical Starz

Zoella "Zoey" Rose Martinez

Jo Acker

Jessi Hart

Rikkey Outumuro, a.k.a. Tru Starlet

Marquiisha Lawrence

Jenny De Leon

Visit the [LGBTQ TA Center Website](#)

LGBTQ and Two-Spirit Indigenous Communities



In November, we honor Native American Heritage Month and

National Day of Mourning, the fourth Thursday of the month (November 25).

Below, we've included resources and research around intersecting LGBTQ, Two-Spirit, and Native identities.

On National Day of Mourning, we recognize that Indigenous people are more likely than any other racial or ethnic group to be [killed by police](#). We recognize that the disappearances and deaths of White women receive far greater attention and resources than the all-too-frequent disappearances and deaths of [Indigenous women and girls](#). We stand in solidarity with American Indian and Alaska Native communities disproportionately impacted by violence, including both LGBTQ2-S and non-LGBTQ2-S Indigenous people.

In the words of one writer in the [The LGBT Sentinel](#):

"Why should the LGBT community care about the National Day of Mourning? Apart from the fact that all Americans need to acknowledge the realities of U.S. history—especially the parts that make us feel uncomfortable—we intersect with Native American communities and have a responsibility to uplift those among us who are marginalized intersectionally."

New Study: LGBTQ American Indian/Alaska Native Mental Health

A [new study](#) from the Williams Institute at UCLA explores data from multiple sources about the health and experiences of American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) LGBTQ adults. The Williams Institute found that compared to their non-LGBTQ peers, AI/AN LGBTQ adults are more likely to have been diagnosed with depression, more likely to report feeling unsafe, and less likely to have insurance.

The report also shares data on **resiliency** factors. For example, 75% of AI/AN LGBTQ adults feel supported by their social circles, and 55% feel connected to the LGBTQ community.

In a [useful article](#) exploring the report and its implications, Somáh Haaland, Pueblo Action Alliance, reminds us:

"Being queer and being Indigenous are both beautiful identities to carry that are sacred when they intersect. But we often must fight twice as hard just to show that we are worthy of living and thriving."

We R Native: LGBT - Two Spirit

We R Native is a holistic health resource that is written for Native youth, by Native youth, to tell their authentic stories. The "LGBT - Two-Spirit" page, linked below, can help AI/AN youth and young adults feel more connected and seen in their intersecting communities.

[Visit We R Native](#)

Good Read: "Perspectives on LGBTQ2-S Native Americans in Traditional Cultures"

For Pride Month 2020, a cultural specialist at the National Museum of the American Indian invited several Native friends to discuss what they have "learned, reconstructed, or been unable to reconstruct" about how their traditional cultures viewed LGBTQ2-S people.

[Read the Smithsonian Article](#)



Video: "What Does 'Two-Spirit' Mean?"

In this episode of InQuery, from LGBTQ news and culture site *them.*, Geo Neptune discusses the history, meaning, and appropriate use of the term "Two-Spirit."

Learn more by reading Indian Country Today's article on "[8 Things You Should Know About Two Spirit People.](#)"

[Watch the InQuery Video](#)

New Resource from the LGBTQ TA Center!



In our newest brief, author Ebony M. Williams, PsyD, offers an overview of research-based and best-practice frameworks for supporting LGBTQ mental and behavioral health.

Dr. Williams explores:

How does sexual prejudice impact access to services?

What are LGBTQ-specific risk factors for mental health and substance use challenges?

What are preventative, trauma-informed, and gender-affirming practices that providers can integrate into their services?

We invite you to read and share the new brief so that we can embrace "Our Opportunity to Narrow the Gap"!

[Download the New Brief](#)

News & Resources

Gender Health Center's New Co-Executive Director Featured in the Media

Congratulations to Jasmine Bright on her new leadership role, as well as all her accomplishments and efforts that led to this moment! As The Los Angeles Blade explains, "Jasmine is one of very few Black trans women who is an Executive Director of a clinic with such broad-ranging direct services. This is huge!" Gender Health Center is a participant in the California Reducing Disparities Project.

[Read the Feature Article](#)

Second Safe and Supportive Schools Survey Sent to All 330 California Unified School Districts

With support from State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Thurmond, Equality California distributed its survey on school climate, anti-bullying, suicide prevention, and other essential school policies throughout the state. Data will be collected through March 2022 and shared in the "Safe and Supportive Schools Report Card" in 2022.

[Read About the New Survey](#)

[Read the 2019 Safe and Supportive Schools Report Card](#)

Recordings from the 2021 Advancing Excellence in Transgender Health Conference Now Available

The National LGBTQIA+ Health Education Center has released recordings of many of the talks from its recent conference. Topics include unconscious and implicit bias, trauma-informed care, mental health assessments for gender-affirming surgery letters, and many other areas that are relevant for mental and behavioral health services providers who work with Transgender and gender non-conforming individuals. CME credits are available.

[Access the Archive](#)

Contact Our Team:

<http://lgbtq-ta-center.org/>



[contact-us](#)

1-877-568-4227

The California Reducing Disparities Project's LGBTQ TA Center is funded and directed by the California Department of Public Health, Office of Health Equity, and administered by the Center for Applied Research Solutions.droppable-1626711173177